

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 STATE 184809

60

ORIGIN ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 OMB-01 AID-20 EB-11 /128 R

DRAFTED BY ARA/CAR/B:TEMACKLIN:JANET

APPROVED BY ARA/CAR:JRBURKE

ARA/PAF:WSDIEDRICH

----- 026636

P 222134Z AUG 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN PRIORITY

UNCLAS STATE 184809

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PROP, PDEV, BB

SUBJECT: EDITORIAL FROM THE "NEW YORK TIMES"

1. THE FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF EDITORIAL FROM THE "NEW YORK TIMES," WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 21, 1974: (BEGIN TEXT) "BARBADOS NO BLASTED PARADISE NOW' AT THE AFRICAN LIBERATION DAY RALLY IN BRIDGETOWN, BARBADOS, THE HANDSOME BLACK BARBADIAN IN A WHITE TEE-SHIRT, HIS MUSCLES TAUT WITH ANGER, JUMPED UP WITH HIS FIST CLENCHED, SHOUTING: 'BARBADOS NO BLASTED

PARADISE NOW;' (PARAGRAPH) ON MAIN STREET IN BRIDGEHAMPTON, L.I., THE CHIC BLOND AMERICAN WOMAN TELLS HER FRIEND HOW RUDE THE HELP HAS BECOME IN BARBADOS AND THAT THE AMERICANS' HOMES ARE BROKEN INTO. HER FRIENDS WILL NOT BE GOING BACK TO BARBADOS FOR THE WINTER; THEY ARE BUYING PROPERTY IN HAITI, WHERE THINGS ARE 'SAFER.' (PARAGRAPH) IF WOODROW WILSON STROVE TO MAKE THE WORLD SAFE FOR DEMOCRACY, THE OBJECT OF AMERICAN FOREIGN POLICY IN THE CARIBBEAN IS TO MAKE PARADISE SAFE FOR CHIC BLOND LADIES. EACH DAY IT IS BECOMING MORE EVIDENT THAT THIS CANNOT BE DONE. IF BLACK RAGE DOESN'T GET YOU POLLUTION WILL. JAMAICA IS AN ARMED
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 STATE 184809

CAMP, GRENADA IS IN TURMOIL, TRINIDAD IS A TIME BOMB, AND

BARBADOS, BEAUTIFUL BARBADOS, PEARL OF THE CARIBBEAN, IS AN EERILY SILENT RELIC, UNABLE TO LEAVE HER COLONIAL PAST BEHIND AND MOVE INTO HER NEOCOLONIAL PRESENT.

2. A SCOTTISH PSYCHIATRIST, DR. RONALD GRAHAM, WHO SERVED AS A CONSULTANT AND PRACTITIONER AT THE BARBADOS MENTAL HOSPITAL, HAS OBSERVED THAT THE HIGH RATE OF INSANITY IN BARBADOS IS DIRECTLY ATTRIBUTABLE TO THE FRUSTRATIONS OF TRYING TO BECOME MIDDLE CLASS IN A HOPELESSLY STAGNANT ECONOMY. DR. FRANTZ FANON, THE BLACK PSYCHIATRIST FROM THE FRENCH WEST INDIES WOULD HAVE UNDERSTOOD MORE PROFOUNDLY THAT IT HAS TO DO WITH SELF-HATRED FOR NOT BEING WHITE, FOR NOT BEING ENGLISH, AMERICAN OR CANADIAN. (PARAGRAPH) BUT UNLIKE THE PEOPLE OF OTHER ISLANDS WHO ARE SHEDDING THEIR COLONIAL SENSE OF INFERIORITY, MOST OF THE CITIZENS OF THE INDEPENDENT BLACK REPUBLIC OF BARBADOS STILL GO TO CHURCH AND WORSHIP A WHITE GOD. IF THE SERMON DOESN'T TAKE THE LIFE OUT OF THEM, THE DRONING OF RADIO DIFFUSION WILL; IT IS A STRANGE 1984-LIKE DEVICE THAT PIPES GOVERNMENT BROADCASTS INTO THE LITTLE WOODEN HOUSES. SEVERAL TIMES A DAY, TO THE PLAYING OF SOLEMN ORGAN MUSIC, THE OBITUARIES OF THE RECENTLY DEPARTED ARE READ, AS IT TO SAY: 'DO NOT TRY TO LIVE. THIS IS HOW YOU END UP NO MATTER WHAT YOU DO.' (PARAGRAPH) THERE IS A STRANGE KIND OF GOVERNMENT IN BARBADOS, OF POWERFUL AND SKILLFUL BLACK POLITICIANS, WHICH ADEPTLY KEEPS THE LOCAL BLACK PEOPLE DOWN AND THE FOREIGN WHITES OFF BALANCE. (PARAGRAPH) FROM TIME TO TIME, FOR NO SERIOUS REASON, A WHITE BUSINESSMAN WILL BE OBLIGED TO LEAVE THE ISLAND IN A MATTER OF DAYS, SUCH AS THE LAST MANAGER OF A POSH HOTEL, BECAUSE OF AN ALLEGED SLIGHT TO THE PRIME MINISTER, ERROL W. BARROW. (PARAGRAPH) THE WORD GOT AROUND THAT MR. BARROW, LEADER OF THE RULING DEMOCRATIC LABOR PARTY, WILL TAKE NO NONSENSE FROM 'MASSAH,' SLANG FOR 'THE MAN.' BUT THEN WILL TURN AROUND AND LET A MAJOR AMERICAN MOTEL COMPANY DEVELOP A CASTLE THAT IS A NATIONAL LANDMARK AND TAKE MOST OF THE PROFITS OUT OF THE COUNTRY. (PARAGRAPH) THE BARROW GOVERNMENT WALKS A NARROW LINE BETWEEN RAGE AND REACTION, ANTI-COLONIALISM AND SUBSERVIENCE. ON ONE HAND, A DELEGATION FROM CUBA IS WELCOMED WARMLY, AND DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 STATE 184809

ARE ESTABLISHED WITH PREMIER CASTRO'S REGIME; IT IS POSSIBLE TO FLY DIRECT ON A CUBAN PLANE FROM SEAWELL AIRPORT TO HAVANA. ON THE OTHER HAND, THE LARGEST EMBASSY IN BARBADOS IS THAT OF THE NATIONALIST CHINESE. (PARAGRAPH) UNLIKE MOST OF THE OTHER CARIBBEAN COUNTRIES, WHICH SUPPORT THE ARABS, BARBADOS HAS REMAINED A STANCH DEFENDER OF ISRAEL, A POLICY ARISING NO DOUBT FROM THE REALITY THAT A SUBSTANTIAL NUMBER OF THE BUSINESSMEN IN BARBADOS FROM

THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA ARE JEWISH. THERE ARE ALSO VIRTUALLY NO EAST INDIAN OR ARAB COMMUNITIES, AS THERE ARE IN TRINIDAD AND GUYANA. (PARAGRAPH) THE INNER CONTRADICTIONS OF THE SOCIETY CAN BE PARTLY EXPLAINED BY THE SUCCESS OF THE NEW BARBADIAN MIDDLE CLASS OF PROFESSIONALS

AND BUREAUCRATS, THE SMALL SECTION OF THE BLACK MAJORITY THAT PROTECTS THE INTERESTS OF THE WHITE BARBADIANS AND FOREIGNERS WHO CONTROL THE ECONOMY, WHICH IS BASED ON SUGAR, TOURISM AND REAL-ESTATE SPECULATION.

3. WITH INDEPENDENCE AND ALL ITS TRAPPINGS, INCLUDING A NEW BARBADIAN CURRENCY AND A CENTRAL BANK, A NEW CLASS OF BARBADIAN CIVIL SERVANTS HAS EMERGED. WITH HIGH GOVERNMENT SALARIES, THEY CAN AFFORD BIG HOUSES AND CARS AND THE SAME MAIDS AND GARDENERS THAT USED TO BE THE EXCLUSIVE PRIVILEGE OF THE WHITES. THEY SEND THEIR CHILDREN TO FINE PRIVATE SCHOOLS, FULLY AWARE OF THE INADEQUACIES OF THE PUBLIC EDUCATION SYSTEM WITH ITS UNDERPAID TEACHERS AND LACK OF FACILITIES. (PARAGRAPH) ONCE IDEALISTIC AND EVEN RADICAL, THE NEW BLACK ESTABLISHMENT OF ADMINISTRATORS, JUDGES AND MINISTERS, CALLED THE 'AFRO-SAXONS' BY THEIR DETRACTORS, HAS BECOME INCREASINGLY CONSERVATIVE. THEY KNOW WHERE THEIR BREAD IS BUTTERED, AND THEY DON'T SEEM TO BE IN ANY MOOD TO SHARE THE LOAF. (PARAGRAPH) THE POOR BARBADIANS USED TO BE ABLE TO LIVE OFF THE LAND AND THE SEA, BUT DEVELOPMENT HAS CAUSED A PAINFUL INFLATION AND DESTROYED A CONSIDERABLE AMOUNT OF THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT THAT ONCE PROVIDED THE MEANS OF SURVIVAL. (PARAGRAPH) THE YOUNG MEN, UNEMPLOYED AND BORED, STARE BLANKLY AT THE PASSING TRAFFIC. THEY STAND AROUND OR SIT FOR HOURS, DOING NOTHING BECAUSE THERE IS NOTHING TO DO. THIS PRACTICE IS KNOWN IN LOCAL JARGON AS 'LIMING.' EVEN IN UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 04 STATE 184809

PARADISE, THE LIME IS A VERY BITTER FRUIT. (PARAGRAPH) THE FUTURE OF BARBADOS IS VERY MUCH IN DOUBT. INDEPENDENCE, FROM BRITAIN IN 1966 HAS BROUGHT DISILLUSIONMENT AND EVEN DESPITE. THE FUTURE, IF THERE IS TO BE ONE, WILL HAVE TO BE BASED ON A LARGE COMMUNITY. ECONOMIC INTEGRATION UNDER THE CARIBBEAN COMMON MARKET WILL NOT BE SUFFICIENT. DESTROYED BY OPPORTUNISTIC POLITICIANS, THE WEST INDIAN FEDERATION IS THE DREAM WORTHY, PERHAPS, OF BEING REVIVED. (PARAGRAPH) THE WHITE AMERICAN MUST LEAVE PARADISE BEHIND AND RETURN TO THE TURMOIL OF HIS OWN SOCIETY. IN THIS PERIOD OF TRANSITION, THERE IS NO PLACE FOR HIM IN THE BLACK EXPERIENCE. BUT HE WILL REMEMBER FOR THE REST OF HIS LIFE THE GENIUS AND BEAUTY OF THE WEST INDIAN PEOPLE. ONE DAY, IN BETTER TIMES, THEY WILL COME TO US WITH GREAT GIFTS.. (PARAGRAPH) NOTE TO READERS:

RICHARD CUMMINGS RECENTLY RETURNED FROM BARBADOS, WHERE HE
TAUGHT CONSTITUTIONAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE LAW AT THE
UNIVERSITY OF THE WEST INDIES. ARTICLE WIRTTEN BY
RICHARD CUMMINGS, BRIDGEHAMPTON, N.Y." (END QUOTE) KISSINGER

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, ECONOMIC CONDITIONS, NEWSPAPERS, POLITICAL SITUATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 22 AUG 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STATE184809
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: TEMACKLIN:JANET
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740232-0421
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740825/aaaaavde.tel
Line Count: 173
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN ARA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: shawdg
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10 JUL 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <10 JUL 2002 by reddocgw>; APPROVED <31 JAN 2003 by shawdg>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: EDITORIAL FROM THE "NEW YORK TIMES"
TAGS: PROP, PDEV, EGEN, BB, US, NEW YORK TIMES, (CUMMINGS, RICHARD)
To: BRIDGETOWN
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005